

110th General Assembly / 2017 Session

Legislative Report

Public Chapter 18

SB 341: Niceley; HB 720: Parkinson
TDOE Contact: Leigh Bagwell

Authorizes school counselors to refer students to a counselor or therapist for mental health assessments or services without the counselor or local education agency (LEA) being responsible for the cost of such services. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 19

SB 399: Gresham; HB 414: White, M.
State Board Contact: Nathan James

Clarifies the duty of the state board of education to issue professional licenses upon the work done in educator preparation programs. *Effective March 24, 2017*

Public Chapter 21

SB 490: Briggs; HB 565: Thompson
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Removes the requirement that a county trustee or fiscal agent submit the annual financial report of the LEA to the commissioner of education since LEAs already submit this information each year. *Effective March 24, 2017*

Public Chapter 22

SB 598: Haile; HB 388: Brooks, K.
TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Requires LEAs and nonpublic schools to provide, parents and guardians with information about influenza disease and the effectiveness of vaccination against influenza at the beginning of every school year. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 84

SB 117: Briggs; HB 121: Terry
TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Requires the state board of education to adopt rules and regulations allowing for the administration of medication that treats adrenal insufficiency for students while at school. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 96

SB 1013: Gardenhire; HB 1065: Brooks, K.

TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Prohibits schools from giving students who serve as a page to the General Assembly an absences, either excused or unexcused, while they are serving as a page. *Effective April 4, 2017*

Public Chapter 99

SB 662: Tracy; HB 45: Dunn

TDOE Contact: Christine Hollifield

Updates the requirements of physical activity to 130 minutes of physical activity each week for elementary school students and 90 minutes of physical activity each week for middle and high school students. *Effective April 4, 2017*

Public Chapter 105

SB 232: Harris; HB 918: Byrd

TDOE Contact: Amy Wooten

Requires the state board of education to establish an endorsement option for computer science. *Effective April 7, 2017*

Public Chapter 130

SB 195: Overbey; HB 338: Ramsey

TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Adds healthcare services provided to a patient at a public elementary or secondary school, staffed by a healthcare service provider and equipped to engage in the telecommunications, to the current definition of telehealth services. *Effective April 17, 2017*

Public Chapter 143

SB 575: Gresham; HB 626: Kumar

TDOE Contact: Amy Wooten

Requires the department of education to provide approved teacher training programs access to annual evaluation data for teachers and principals that have graduated from their program. *Effective April 17, 2017*

Public Chapter 152

SB 1195: Tracy; HB 307: White, M.

TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Requires the department and state board of education to develop rules and regulations to ensure all students incarcerated in juvenile detention centers receive appropriate education services and to ensure the transfer of BEP funding and educational records for students incarcerated in juvenile detention centers not located in their home LEA. *Effective April 17, 2017*

Public Chapter 177

SB 1198: Tracy; HB 308: Byrd
TDOE Contact: Nakia Towns

Revises various provisions regarding student accountability measures due to the implementation of the federal law, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Specifically the legislation, outlines school and district accountability to include student achievement, student growth and other measures of performance; updates the definition of priority schools; clarifies the role of the Achievement School District (ASD) in serving priority schools; and makes updates to the state calculation for graduation rate. *Effective April 24, 2017*

Public Chapter 189

SB 217: Tate; HB 147: Parkinson
TDOE Contact: Pat Conner

Authorizes an LEA to adopt, in consultation with the appropriate local law enforcement agency, a policy that authorizes a school security officer employed by the LEA to patrol within a one-mile radius of the security officer's assigned school for violations of the law that involve minors, including truancy. *Effective April 27, 2017*

Public Chapter 192

SB 1196: Tracy; HB 309: Smith
TDOE Contact: Rene Diamond

Resets the weighting of student growth data in a teacher's evaluation so that TNReady will factor into a teacher's evaluation score as follows: 10 percent for the 2016-17 school year, 20 percent for the 2017-18 school year, and 35 percent for the 2018-19 school year and thereafter. Additionally, adjusts the percentage of TCAP scores that must be included in a student's final grade to 10 percent for the 2016-17 school year, 15 percent for the 2017-18 school year, and between 15 percent and 25 percent based on local board decision for the 2018-19 school year and beyond. *Effective April 19, 2017*

Public Chapter 204

SB 1394: Tate; HB 872: Akbari
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Requires the department of education to conduct a review of exclusionary discipline practices for pre-K and kindergarten and requires the department to develop a model policy for discipline practices. LEAs must either adopt the model policy or develop their own based on the standards developed by the department. *Effective April 27, 2017*

Public Chapter 205

SB 2: Johnson; HB 1043: Casada
TDOE Contact: Eve Carney

Authorizes local education agencies (LEAs) to use SAT scores, in addition to ACT scores, as a benchmark for identifying specific goals in required annual school improvement plans. *Effective April 19, 2017*

Public Chapter 207

SB 998: Haile; HB 1161: Brooks, H.
TDOE Contact: Heather Justice

Establishes the Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar graduation designation for students who earn a composite of 19 or higher on the ACT and earn a capstone industry certification. Requires each public high school to recognize Tri-Star Scholars at graduation. *Effective April 27, 2017*

Public Chapter 238

SB 1283: Green; HB 922: Reedy
TDOE Contact: Vickie Hall

Requires a local education insurance committee to provide claims data within 30 days of receipt of a written request for such claims data from an LEA. *Effective April 28, 2017*

Public Chapter 252

SB 1082: Lundberg; HB 903: Kumar
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Requires driver education courses to include advisory guidelines developed by the department of safety concerning best behaviors for drivers to exercise when stopped by law enforcement officers. *Effective May 2, 2017*

Public Chapter 256

SB 458: Bell; HB 448: Forgety
TDOE Contact: Lori Paisley

Requires the state board of education, in consultation with the department of health, to develop guidelines for the administration of an opioid antagonist for treatment of students with a potential drug overdose. All LEAs must implement a policy based on the guidelines developed. Permits all public and nonpublic schools to maintain an opioid antagonist at the school. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 260

SB 1012: Gardenhire; HB 1063: Brooks, K.
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Prohibits schools from requiring students to attend an athletic event if the event occurs on an official school holiday, observed day of worship, or religious holiday and the parent or guardian provides prior written notice of the student's absence. *Effective May 2, 2017*

Public Chapter 270

SB 524: Massey; HB 462: Kane
TDOE Contact: Allison Gauld

Requires the state board of education to accept American sign language courses as the foreign language credits required for graduation. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 278

SB 1151: Hensley; HB 409: Byrd
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Clarifies that the handgun instruction curriculum required before an employee is permitted to carry a handgun on the property of schools in distressed rural counties shall be taught by a local law enforcement agency and taken from an existing curriculum that has been approved by the POST commission for use in training school resource officers. *Effective May 4, 2017*

Public Chapter 279

SB 1152: Hensley; HB 287: Byrd
TDOE Contact: Tammy Shelton

Designates the week of September 17, 2018 and each year thereafter as “Celebrate Freedom Week” in Tennessee public schools. Requires the department to provide LEAs with resources and materials for instructional use during Celebrate Freedom Week and encourages schools to study the meaning and importance of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution, and provide for the study of the Declaration of Independence during “Freedom Week”. *Effective July 1, 2018*

Public Chapter 287

SB 156: Green; HB 166: Pitts
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Deletes the 90-day limit that a retired teacher who is a member of the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) can be employed as a substitute teacher (in addition to a 120 day contract) and continue to draw retirement allowance. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 289

SB 1210: Gardenhire; HB 322: Hawk
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Requires all school districts and charter schools to appoint a transportation supervisor that is responsible for monitoring and overseeing student transportation. Requires all new bus drivers to complete a school bus driver training program based on standards developed by the Department of Education and the Department of Safety prior to transporting any students and increases the minimum age to 25 for individuals obtaining the Class “S” endorsement on a license. *Effective January 1, 2018*

Public Chapter 305

SB 584: Gresham; HB 63: Kane
TDOE Contact: Rebecca Wright

Clarifies the current Individualized Education Account (IEA) statute. Specifically, the legislation adds two disabilities to the list of disabilities that qualify for the IEA Program: developmental delay and multiple disabilities; updates the assessment language for students with disabilities; and increases the administration fee retained by the department from four percent to six percent. *Effective May 5, 2017*

Public Chapter 307

SB 1197: Kelsey; HB 310: Brooks, H.
TDOE Contact: Marcy Tidwell

Enacts the *Tennessee High-Quality Charter Schools Act*, which aims to increase the number of high performing charter schools in Tennessee by requiring charter authorizers to adopt high quality authorizing practices; establishes an authorizer fee to be paid by charter schools to the LEA for costs associated with charter authorizing, clarifies funding procedures for charter schools; and establishes a charter schools facility grant and loan fund that can be used by charter schools to purchase school facilities or for renovation and maintenance costs. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 313

SB 733: Gresham; HB 439: Ragan
TDOE Contact: Pat Conner

Requires school safety teams to conduct at least one armed intruder drill annually. The drill shall be conducted in coordination with the appropriate local law enforcement and the results of the drill shall be maintained for five years and available to the department upon request. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 322

SB 92: Bell; HB 240: Faison
TDOE Contact: Tammy Shelton

Extends the state textbook and instructional materials quality commission to June 30, 2019. *Effective May 9, 2017*

Public Chapter 323

SB 102: Bell; HB 239: Faison
TDOE Contact: Chelsea Parker

Extends the Tennessee Council for Career and Technical Education four years to June 30, 2021. *Effective May 9, 2017*

Public Chapter 328

SB 394: Gresham; HB 444: Gant
TDOE Contact: Casey Haugner

Revises requirements in state law where an SAT score is explicitly stated to account for the change in scoring on the revised SAT exams. *Effective May 9, 2017 and applies to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds beginning with the 2017-18 academic year.*

Public Chapter 346

SB 1262: Norris; HB 230: Hulsey
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Extends by one year the manner in which liquor-by-the-drink tax proceeds are distributed to local political subdivisions, including LEAs. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 360

SB 14: Green; HB 174: Reedy
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Creates a list of rights and protections afforded to educators. *Effective May 11, 2017*

Public Chapter 361

SB 263: Tracy; HB 267: Brooks, H.
TDOE Contact: Marcy Tidwell

Permits a chartering authority to charge a charter school application fee of up to \$2,500 for each charter school application. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 376

SB 34: Harris; HB 329: Cooper
Contact: Tennessee Student's Assistance Corporation (TSAC)

Expands the Tennessee HOPE Teacher's Scholarship by decreasing, from two years to one year, the amount of time a teacher is required to teach the subjects of mathematics or science in a public school in order to receive a Tennessee HOPE Teacher's Scholarship (THTS). *Effective May 18, 2017*

Public Chapter 379

SB 196: Overbey; HB 483: Forgety
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Requires each LEA to designate an employee as the system attendance supervisor with the duty of enforcing and monitoring compulsory attendance laws. Additionally requires each LEA to establish a progressive truancy intervention program for students who violate compulsory attendance requirements. Progressive truancy interventions must be applied prior to a referral to juvenile court. *Effective July 1, 2018.*

Public Chapter 387

SB 379: Briggs; HB 368: Zachary
TDOE Contact: Amy Wooten

Requires the rate of compensation set by an LEA for substitute teachers who are retired teachers who retired after July 1, 2011 through July 1, 2016, be the same for retired teachers without an active teaching license as it is for retired teachers with an active teaching license. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 389

SB 401: Gresham; HB 457: Littleton
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Requires the entire \$200 included in the BEP for teachers to use on instructional supplies to be given to every teacher by October 31 of each year. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 402

SB 614: Watson; HB 695: Williams
TDOE Contact: Amy Wooten

Requires full-time educator preparation program faculty members to have direct personal involvement in public schools or local education agencies (LEAs) annually. Requires faculty involvement to include professional learning targeted to pre-K through grade 12 teachers; learning focused on LEA-specific initiatives; direct instruction to pre-K through grade 12 students; district-level partnership; or observation of pre-K through grade 12 teachers. *Effective May 18, 2017*

Public Chapter 405

SB 720: Yager; HB 980: Travis
TDOE Contact: Casey Haugner

Authorizes middle college students to receive a Middle College Scholarship (MCS), beginning in the 2019-20 academic year and allows MCS students to receive the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship at the time of transfer to an eligible four-year institution in pursuit of a baccalaureate degree. *Effective May 18, 2017*

Public Chapter 407

SB 729: Gresham; HB 1196: Rudd
TDOE Contact: Christy Ballard

Enacts the *Tennessee Educators Protection Act*, which limits the liability of educational entities and employees. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 415

SB 897: Johnson; HB 1379: Sargent
TDOE Contact: Maryanne Durski

Adds LEAs with centralized purchasing authority and a full-time purchasing agent to the list of local government entities authorized to set the threshold above which competitive bids must be sought at \$25,000. *Effective May 18, 2017*

Public Chapter 433

SB 1418: Tracy; HB 1412: Brooks, H.
Contact: Board of Regents

Moves the Tennessee Council for Career and Technical Education's administrative attachment from the department of education to the board of regents. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 450

SB 248: Tracy; HB 22: Brooks, H.
TDOE Contact: Casey Haugner

Requires each LEA to make available at least four early postsecondary opportunities (EPSOs) for students enrolled in high school beginning with the 2018-19 school year. *Effective May 25, 2017*

Public Chapter 451

SB 136: Jackson; HB 192: Sanderson
TDOE Contact: Mike Herrmann

Requires fire drills requiring full evacuation to be held at least one time every 30 days with two fire drills occurring within the first days of the school year. Additionally requires four fire safety educational announcements to be conducted throughout the year. *Effective May 25, 2017*

Public Chapter 460

SB 483: Norris; HB 511: Sargent
TDOE Contact: Chris Foley

Makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2016 and July 1, 2017. *Effective July 1, 2017*

Public Chapter 471

SB 585: Gresham; HB 335: Kumar
TDOE Contact: Casey Haugner

Requires students to submit an application for the dual enrollment grant (DEG) only once each academic year and to maintain at least a 2.75 grade point average for continued eligibility. *Effective May 30, 2017*

Public Chapter 482

SB 864: Haile; HB 1169: Swann
TDOE Contact: Tammy Shelton

Requires the state board to adopt a required course in Tennessee history. *Effective 2018-19 school year*

Senate Joint Resolution 107

TDOE Contact: Heather Justice

Requires the department and state board to study and report on the best practices for funding programs focused on career preparation and providing postsecondary opportunities.
